

**CLAIMS**

1. The use of Ear Flap/Warmers in sporting helmets, permanently or temporarily affixed, with two (2) internally mounted (stereo) speakers, one in each ear flap/warmer secured in a manor preventing the speaker to move or shift within the ear flap/warmer, or become damaged due to environment, connected to an external audio signal source through connection wires with a mechanical electrical interconnect between the two sides of the ear flap/warmers allowing for the separation of said connection wires at the location of the helmet chinstrap connection.
2. Ear Flap/Warmers as described in CLAIM 1 (above) with the mechanical electrical interconnect as described in CLAIM 1 designed in such a way as to also function as the mechanical connection device securing the chinstraps of said sporting helmet.
3. The mechanical electrical interconnect as described in CLAIM 1, with the additional function of securing the sporting helmet chinstraps as described in CLAIM 2, with the additional function of a microphone mounted within said mechanical electrical interconnect so as to provide sound reception for use with an external 2-way communication device whereby one or more of the speakers described in CLAIM 1 shall function as an audio output source for said 2-way communication device and where both ear flap/warmers and mechanical electrical interconnect contain wiring connections to provide connection to said external device.
4. The mechanical electrical interconnect as described in CLAIM 1, without the additional function of securing the sporting helmet chinstraps as described in CLAIM 2, with the additional function of a microphone mounted within said mechanical electrical interconnect so as to provide sound reception for use with an external 2-way communication device whereby one or more of the speakers described in CLAIM 1 shall function as an audio output source for said 2-way communication device and where both ear flap/warmers and mechanical electrical interconnect contain wiring connections to provide connection to said external device.

5. Ear flap/warmers as described in CLAIM 1, with the multifunctional microphone inclusive mechanical electrical interconnect described in CLAIM 3 or CLAIM 4, incorporating an electrical or mechanical switching device, or additional circuitry, allowing said Sporting Helmet to be used both as a (stereo) audio reproduction device and 2-way communication device by switching the functions of the speakers and microphone between the functional connections to the external audio and 2-way communication sources by opening and closing the electrical circuit pathways between said speaker and microphone components and wiring connections.
6. Ear flap/warmers as described in CLAIM 1 with the additional 2-way communication function described in CLAIM 3 or CLAIM 4 incorporating the dual functionality of audio (stereo) reproduction and 2-way communication through connection to an external source capable of providing the functions of both audio (stereo) reproduction and 2-way communication, where the external multifunctional source contains an electrical or mechanical switching device, or additional circuitry, to switch between the dual functions of audio (stereo) reproduction and 2-way communication, and is connected to said external device through one or more electrical connections.
7. Ear flap/warmers as described in CLAIM 1, with or without the multifunctional chinstrap connections described in CLAIM 2, CLAIM 3 or CLAIM 4 with or without the dual function capabilities described in CLAIM 5 or CLAIM 6, with the addition of a resistor, of specific or variable resistance, located along the said electrical connections to provide resistance for the purpose of limiting the volume of the said speakers and/or microphone.